New Nouveau Brunswick CANADA

News Release

Communications New Brunswick

Training and Employment Development / N.B. Human Rights Commission

Human Rights Commission chair named / Member reappointed for second term (04/06/25)

NB 739

June 25, 2004

FREDERICTON (CNB) - The appointments of Alanna Palmer as the chair of the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission and Dr. Gordon Porter as a member for a second term were announced today by Training and Employment Development Minister Margaret-Ann Blaney.

"As the minister responsible for the commission, I am very pleased to announce these two appointments," Blaney said. "Alanna Palmer has the background and expertise to be an effective chair, which will help further the protection and promotion of human rights in our province. I would also like to congratulate Dr. Gordon Porter on his reappointment and recognize outgoing chair Dr. Patrick Malcolmson for his years of hard work and dedication to the position."

Palmer holds a BBA, BEd, and has been the director of ATHENE, the training division of the Institut de Memramcook Institute for the last 12 years. She has also held positions in the New Brunswick Community College system and with NB Tel. She has been a member of the Human Rights Commission since 2002 and is the current chair of the New Brunswick Foundation for the Arts.

She has held positions in the past on local boards of Home and School and Block Parent associations. She authored the code of conduct and disciplinary policy of a national sports organization and has been a consultant to the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Palmer replaces Dr. Patrick Malcolmson, who had been the commission chair since 2000. The appointment is effective July 1, 2004.

"This is a great honour to serve my province, and continue the commission's work for human rights renewal in New Brunswick," Palmer said. "The commission is working to ensure that there is equality of opportunity and that no person is discriminated against. "The Government of New Brunswick is committed to ensuring that New Brunswick is an inclusive society, and we can work together towards those objectives."

In addition to Palmer's appointment, the minister was also pleased to announce that Dr. Gordon Porter would be reappointed as a member after already serving on the commission for the past three years. Porter holds a BA and a BEd from the University of New Brunswick, as well as an MEd and CAS from the University of Maine. He also pursued doctoral studies in special education administration at Syracuse University in New York. He received a Doctor of Civil Laws degree from the University of New Brunswick in recognition of his work with persons with disabilities. Porter is also a recipient of the

Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. He was appointed to the Human Rights Commission in 2001.

The minister also commended outgoing member David Peters of Saint John on his three years of service. Peters was appointed to the Human Rights Commission in 2001.

The other current members of the commission are: Jean-Claude Jalbert of Grand Falls, Andre LeBlanc of Moncton, Malcolm Harris of Saint John, Mary Jane Ward of Red Bank and Rose-Marie Curry of Tracadie-Sheila.

The New Brunswick Human Rights Commission administers the provincial Human Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination and harassment based on religion, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, mental and physical disability, race, colour, national origin, place of origin and ancestry. The act applies to all employers, public services and housing, except those that fall under federal jurisdiction.

For more information about the Human Rights Commission, visit the website at: http://www.gnb.ca/hrc-cdp/e/index.htm.

04/06/25

MEDIA CONTACTS: Francis Young, Human Rights officer, New Brunswick Human Rights Commission, 1 888 471-2233 or 506-453-2308; Shawn Hearn, Training and Employment Development, 506-453-2568.

04/06/25

Communications New Brunswick
E-mail | Contacts | Disclaimer | Privacy Statement